

Wow! Summer has flown by! School has started, Fall is out in the shop and Christmas Merchandise has arrived. Bring on the Holiday Season! Putting the slow summer months behind us!

I want to apologize for the last message. I was very long! Sorry. I didn't realize how long it was until I had finished. Oh well you all know I have the gift of gab. So this one will not be quite as long. Maybe.

Congratulations to Lynn Vallotton GMF! She represented GSFA at Southern Retail in their Designer of the Year competition and placed 2nd Runner up out of 8 states. Lynn, you made GSFA proud.

I am so excited to announce the Floral Education Course that is now available to GSFA Members. It's a course that consist of 9 online course and a hands-on workshop. Open to any GSFA member. The Floral Education Course is also Phase One of the New GMF Certification Program. In an effort to strengthen the level of quality and to bring the program up to standards recognized by the Industry, changes have been made to the Certification program. Complete details are available in this issue of the News Flash as well as on the web site www.georgiastateflorist.com.

Speaking of the web site, new things are happening there. As of last week, convention registration can be purchased from the site. Along with the Floral Education Course and GMF Certification, you can even make a donation to the Julian Bridges Education Fund on the site. We are finally getting there and more are to come! Thank You Richard!

Education is the driving force of GSFA. We have educational programs taking place all over the state. From Monthly District Meeting to the Regional Programs. Check out the "Events" section as well as the Regional Programs slated for the next few weeks. Convention 2010 is coming right along! We have a lot of buzz generating within the industry. You don't want to miss it!

I know I said I would keep it short and I will. I do want to take this time to say THANK YOU to everyone for all the hard work and support!!!! I truly appreciate you all!!! Let us keep pressing forward! As always, Thanks for all you do for GSFA and our Industry!

Randy Wooten AIFD, GMF

GSFA President